

HAITI DEVELOPMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND INSTITUTIONAL TRANSPARENCY INITIATIVE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address the gravity of the cyber threat to our national security and critical infrastructure, especially as we face potential cyber threats from Russia following its horrific invasion of Ukraine. The Federal Government must know when vital sectors of our Nation are affected by cyber attacks, so that we may deploy the full resources of the Federal Government to respond to and mitigate these attacks.

Division Y of the bipartisan “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022” will take significant steps to strengthen cybersecurity protections and ensure that the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, or CISA, is at the forefront of our Nation’s response to serious cyber attacks by requiring timely reporting of these attacks to the Federal Government so that we can better prevent future incidents and hold attackers accountable.

To be clear, Division Y of the Act, which is based on Rep. YVETTE D. CLARKE’s H.R. 5440, the “Cyber Incident Reporting for Critical Infrastructure Act of 2021,” and its Senate companion legislation (S. 2875) sponsored by Senator GARY C. PETERS, does not impede the FBI or other law enforcement investigations against perpetrators of attacks.

The plain text of Division Y makes Congress’s intent clear. Although the reports themselves—and any “communication[s], document[s], or material[s], or other record[s] created for the sole purpose of preparing, drafting or submitting” those reports—may not be received in evidence, the FBI and other law enforcement entities nevertheless may make full use of the information contained in such materials in their investigations of a cyber incident or for other purposes authorized by the statute. Likewise, additional facts developed in those investigations may be used to further those investigations or activities, including in ex parte or other proceedings. In other words, although the FBI cannot attach the report filed with CISA in a warrant application or submit it in evidence in a trial, it may, as appropriate, use information contained in the reports and derived from them for a range of purposes, including obtaining a warrant and prosecuting bad actors. Further, the legislative language also is not intended to prohibit or discourage entities from reporting to CISA and law enforcement concurrently.

The language of this division makes clear that the information may be used for cybersecurity or investigative purposes. In the new section 2245 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 created by this division, it clearly states that reports submitted to CISA under this provision can be used for “the purpose of preventing, investigating, disrupting, or prosecuting an offense arising out of a cyber incident reported pursuant to” the statute’s requirements or through voluntary reporting provisions.

Moreover, facts developed during an FBI investigation of a relevant cyber incident using

other authorities are not subject to the evidentiary restrictions found in section 2245(c)(3) of the statute, including similar facts that may also have been disclosed to the Federal Government in the report to CISA.

The FBI’s efforts to hold accountable, disrupt, or deter perpetrators of cyber attacks are fully consistent with the goal of encouraging entities to disclose cyber incidents. As stakeholders work through the rulemaking process, the committees of jurisdiction in both the House and the Senate look forward to working with them to ensure that congressional intent is not misinterpreted, and that this legislation is implemented as intended.

Mr. Speaker, the hard work of many of my colleagues went into the inclusion of this important legislation in the “Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022.” I want to thank especially Representatives CLARKE, JOHN KATKO, and ANDREW R. GARBARINO; and Senators PETERS, ROB PORTMAN, MARK R. WARNER, and SUSAN M. COLLINS.

RECOGNIZING SARA EGELSTON AKERS

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Sara Egelston Akers for a lifetime of service dedicated to fostering a love for the performing arts among the youth in our community.

In 1991, what began as a single production of “The Wizard of Oz” at a local church, would go on to become the profoundly impactful Plano Children’s Theatre (PCT), one of the first youth theaters dedicated to providing children from all backgrounds the opportunity to be on stage. Due to Sara’s efforts as the Theatre’s Founder and Executive Director, in time multiple performance theatres and rehearsal studios would be established across North Texas.

Among her most notable achievements during her tenure with PCT, Sara pioneered the use of drama as a means of therapy, paving the way for the widespread implementation of adaptive performing arts programs for students with disabilities.

Over the past three decades, Sara has been a vital contributor to Plano’s performing arts landscape. Following her executive role with PCT, Sarah went on to a serve as the Vice President of Community Outreach for North Texas Performing Arts (NTPA), where she oversaw fundraising, community outreach, and diversity efforts. Under her leadership, NTPA has become the largest youth theatre in the country impacting thousands of families.

For her many contributions within our community, Sara was recognized by the Plano Chamber of Commerce with the prestigious Athena Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Art Centre of Plano. In honor, NTPA has likewise established a “Sara Egelston Akers Legacy Fund” which will provide support for the organization’s scholarship initiatives.

Following her retirement this May, Sara will continue to serve as a teacher and director maintaining an active role in the NTPA’s Arts Advisory Council, Governing Board of Direc-

tor’s, and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force.

Ms. Sara Egelston Akers, a gifted educator, artist, and leader, has undoubtedly made a lasting impact on the North Texas community, and though she will be missed, her future is sure to be filled with many wonderful new opportunities.

As she prepares to embark on this next chapter of her life, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring Sara Egelston Akers for her successful career devoted to promoting accessibility among youth in the performing arts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF KENNETH BICE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Kenneth Bice.

Kenneth was born in Anniston, Alabama, on November 28, 1944. He now resides in Ohatchee, Alabama, with Fran, his wife of 40 years. He has been blessed with five children, 12 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

After working with South Central Bell for 15 years, Kenneth saw an opportunity to start a ground-breaking telecommunication company in Anniston, Alabama. As the telecommunication industry began rapidly changing with new FCC rulings allowing companies and individuals to buy their own telephone equipment instead of renting, he seized this opportunity and founded Telephone Communications, Inc (TCI) in 1979. TCI now serves thousands of customers with their managed services in the telecom, security and IT services industries. This successful company is the first of many companies Kenneth would begin. Other companies he founded include: TelNet Corporation, Bice Enterprises, The Homestead & Liberty Square, Blue Signs, Yello Wireless, Smart Ink, BCR Corporation, PHR, Inc., KB’s Restaurant and Action Auto.

He has served his community over the years and been involved as a Graduate of Leadership Calhoun County, a member of the Calhoun County Chamber of Commerce, the Salvation Army Advisory Board, Anniston Main Street Board of Directors, Founder of Citizens for Safer Alabama, Calhoun County Economic Development Council, Colonial Bank Advisory Board, Board of Directors for the Berman Foundation Museum, Board member of Anniston Retail Commercial Development Authority, Founder of Alabama Long Distance Association, Volunteer fireman at Ohatchee Fire Department and active member of Oak Bowery Church where he currently serves as Sunday School Teacher and Chairman of Properties Committee.

He Received Small Business Leader of the Year for Calhoun County (1990, 1994) and Special Achievement Award from State of Alabama (1990).

Kenneth retired February 14, 2022 and will be honored March 29th with family and friends in Saks.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating my friend on his retirement and his tireless service to our community.

HONORING CHUCK FOWKE

HON. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, Mr. Chuck Fowke, a home builder and developer from Valrico, Florida, who on February 10th concluded his successful term as the 2021 chairman of the National Association of Home Builders.

As chairman, Chuck confronted the challenges he and his fellow builders faced during the COVID-19 pandemic head-on. His steady leadership at NAHB during the past year has paid great dividends as the housing industry has overcome new challenges.

Chuck provided a laser-like focus to keep housing moving forward by working with the administration and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to resolve issues pertaining to the price and availability of building materials, and the supply chain in general. He personally testified before Congress on this issue in October, calling on lawmakers to determine what action can be taken to address our nation's troubled building materials supply chain.

These efforts are paying dividends. Chuck and the NAHB have been working tirelessly to reduce lumber tariffs that have contributed to unprecedented price volatility and harmed housing affordability. These efforts proved successful as the Commerce Department announced on Jan. 31st that it would be lowering tariffs on Canadian lumber imports into the U.S. from 17.99 percent to 11.64 percent—a 35 percent reduction.

As founder and president of Homes by John C. Fowke Inc., Chuck has built hundreds of homes throughout Central Florida and the Tampa Bay area. He is dedicated to his industry, having previously served as president of the Tampa Bay Builders Association and the Florida Home Builders Association. In 2019, he was inducted into the Florida Home Builders Association Hall of Fame.

Chuck also recognizes the importance of giving back to the community he's helped build, having served as chairman of the Charity Women's Crisis Center's Addition and Renovation Committee. He contributed to the efforts of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and the Joshua House and completed a project for the Gary Sinise Foundation for a deserving military widow and her children.

I congratulate Chuck on his efforts to ensure that housing remains accessible and affordable to America's families. I congratulate him on his successful tenure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mrs. MURPHY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on Roll Call Nos. 58 and 59 on March 7, 2022. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call Nos. 58 and 59.

HONORING THE KENTUCKY
SCIENCE CENTER'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Kentucky Science Center—located in my hometown of Louisville, Kentucky—as this outstanding institution celebrates its 150th anniversary.

Originally founded in 1871 as a “cabinet of curiosities” in the Public Library System of Kentucky, what was soon known as the Louisville Museum of Natural History and Science has grown in size and scope to become the largest hands-on science center in the Commonwealth and one of our region's leading resources for education immersion.

Simply put, they make science fun. At the core of the Kentucky Science Center's mission are these simple instructions: “play, tinker, explore, collaborate, test, experiment, goof up, and try again.” Though their focus is helping teach their visitors about a specific field of study, I can't think of more fitting instructions for any endeavor of learning, no matter your age.

Their approach makes learning accessible to people from all walks of life. Whether you're an individual, a family, or an educator with a classroom full of students, the Kentucky Science Center has a seemingly never-ending supply of programming tailored to meet your needs, helping you think big and learn more. Understanding the important role STEM education plays in our future, the Kentucky Science Center has been an invaluable resource in advancing this field of study for all who are lucky to pass through its doors, helping us prepare the next generation of leaders right here in Louisville.

On behalf of the people of Kentucky's Third Congressional District, I thank the administrators, staff, volunteers, and supporters of the Kentucky Science Center for all of their hard work in making this place of learning such a valuable asset to our community. The Kentucky Science Center has encouraged us to think critically, to immerse ourselves in the marvels of science, and to stay forever curious. I congratulate them on this important milestone and I look forward to another 150 years.

HONORING BURLINGTON HIGH
SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM**HON. MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Burlington High School Boys Basketball Team for their first appearance in the Iowa High School State Tournament since 1987.

These extraordinary young men have worked tirelessly to hone their skills and overcome obstacles during this season. I am extremely honored to represent these young men in Congress and proud that their hard work was rewarded by an appearance in the

state tournament. I look forward to seeing this program continue to grow and develop and cannot wait to see more tournament appearances soon.

HONORING SERVICE OF MSGT
JOSHUA UPTON**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Master Sgt. Joshua Upton, crew chief with the 131st Aircraft Maintenance Squadron. He has recently been selected as the 131st Bomb Wing's Maintainer of the Year.

Master Sgt. Joshua Upton has distinguished himself as an essential leader in the B-2 mission, providing both hard work and high performance while stationed and deployed. He was awarded with an incentive flight in a B-2 Spirit bomber on January 9th. Sgt. Upton's leadership as an aircraft-dedicated crew chief has led to the execution of 18 sorties and 145.9 flying hours in support of 16 higher headquarters missions.

Aircraft mechanics are essential to the maintenance, safety, and success of our Armed Forces. Without their long hours of hard work and commitment to detail, these sorties would not be possible. Mechanical teams and their crew chiefs work each day around the clock to ensure constant readiness for military aircraft that are vital to our national defense. Our adversaries never rest and neither do our aircraft maintenance squadrons.

It is a great honor that I recognize the dedicated service of Master Sgt. Joshua Upton. His steadfast leadership and continuous devotion to each mission are part of what make our military the best in the world. I am proud of his accomplishment and his team of aircraft maintenance technicians for earning this recognition. Please join me in congratulating him for his dedicated service to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE
OF JONATHAN B. HOTCHKISS TO
THE NEW HAMPSHIRE FARM MU-
SEUM**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2022

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jonathan B. Hotchkiss's long history of volunteerism and nearly 20 years of service to the New Hampshire Farm Museum in Milton, NH. For the past two decades, Jonathan has served his community as a steadfast supporter of New Hampshire agriculture and culture.

Jon worked with the Farm Museum in a variety of capacities including the facility maintenance, cost-saving program development, grant writing, reenactments, and as both a member and President of the Board of Trustees. He worked tirelessly to develop community and business relationships that enabled the museum to become more organized, creative and financially stable.